

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-17. (Canceled)

18. **(New)** An exhaust treatment apparatus comprising

a flow permeable body through which the exhaust of an internal combustion engine can flow, the body having flow regions with different flow resistances, including flow regions (4, 44) that are separate from one another and are each delimited by a delimiting device (2, 12, 14, 46), each flow region having at least one inflow opening (7) that the exhaust is able to act on and the different flow resistances in the regions (11, 13; 15, 16; 20, 21; 57, 58) being produced by differently embodied delimiting devices.

19. **(New)** The exhaust treatment apparatus according to claim 18, wherein the delimiting devices are permeable to the exhaust and can retain soot particles contained in the exhaust.

20. **(New)** The exhaust treatment apparatus according to claim 19, wherein the permeability of the delimiting devices varies.

21. **(New)** The exhaust treatment apparatus according to claim 20, wherein the different permeabilities of the delimiting devices are at least partially determined by correspondingly selected thicknesses of the delimiting devices.

22. **(New)** The exhaust treatment apparatus according to claim 18, wherein the delimiting devices each comprise a wall and a coating (12, 14, 53) whose thickness varies at least partially covering this wall.

23. **(New)** The exhaust treatment apparatus according to claim 20, wherein the permeability of at least one delimiting device in a region (11; 15) of the delimiting device oriented toward the inflow opening differs from the permeability of the delimiting device in a region (13; 16) oriented away from the inflow opening.

24. **(New)** The exhaust treatment apparatus according to claim 21, wherein the permeability of at least one delimiting device in a region (11; 15) of the delimiting device oriented toward the inflow opening differs from the permeability of the delimiting device in a region (13; 16) oriented away from the inflow opening.

25. **(New)** The exhaust treatment apparatus according to claim 20, wherein the permeabilities of at least two delimiting devices differ from each other.

26. **(New)** The exhaust treatment apparatus according to claim 23, wherein the permeabilities of at least two delimiting devices differ from each other.

27. **(New)** The exhaust treatment apparatus according to claim 19, wherein the delimiting devices are at least partially comprised of porous material and the different permeabilities of the delimiting devices are at least partially determined by correspondingly selected pore densities and/or pore sizes in the regions.

28. **(New)** The exhaust treatment apparatus according to claim 25, wherein the delimiting devices are at least partially comprised of porous material and the different permeabilities of the delimiting devices are at least partially determined by correspondingly selected pore densities and/or pore sizes in the regions.
29. **(New)** The exhaust treatment apparatus according to claim 25, wherein the permeabilities of at least two delimiting devices in regions close to the inflow openings and/or in regions remote from the inflow openings differ from each other.
30. **(New)** The exhaust treatment apparatus according to claim 18, wherein the flow regions have cross-sectional areas perpendicular to the flow direction of the exhaust and the delimiting devices are embodied differently so that the geometric areas of the cross-sectional areas in the regions differ from one another.
31. **(New)** The exhaust treatment apparatus according to claim 18, further comprising a continuous transition between the regions of different flow resistances.
32. **(New)** The exhaust treatment apparatus according to claim 18, wherein the flow-permeable body constitutes an oxidizing converter or a reservoir catalytic converter (30) for NO_x-reduction of the exhaust.
33. **(New)** The exhaust treatment apparatus according to claim 18, wherein the flow-permeable body constitutes a particle filter.

34. **(New)** The exhaust treatment apparatus according to claim 18, wherein the delimiting devices are comprised of ceramic walls.

35. **(New)** The exhaust treatment apparatus according to claim 18, wherein the delimiting devices are comprised of metal meshes.

36. **(New)** The exhaust treatment apparatus according to claim 34, wherein the filter is a sintered metal filter.

37. **(New)** The exhaust treatment apparatus according to claim 18, wherein the flow regions are disposed parallel to one another so that their inflow openings are situated on one side of the body.